

Message Text

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CDR 2D ACR NURNBERG GER
AFSOUTH NAPLES IT
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CONFAIRMED NAPLES IT
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SUBJECT: NATO TOUR MILAN JOURNALISTS

NATO PASS SHAPE

REF: MILAN 1993

1. SUMMARY: THIS CABLE GIVES DETAILED INDIVIDUAL AND
COLLECTIVE INFO ON THE MILAN GROUP AND LAYS OUT
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AREAS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THEM WHICH WILL
UNDOUBTEDLY BE RAISED DURING BRIEFINGS.

2. NOTE FIRST ONE CHANGE IN GROUP MAKE UP AS LISTED
REFTEL: IN PLACE OF ANTONIO VELANI WILL BE RENZO CARNEVALI,
FOREIGN AFFAIRS WRITER FROM FAMIGLIA CRISTIANA (SEE PARA
5G BELOW).

3. GENERAL INFO: THIS GROUP IS MIXTURE OF PRINT MEDIA JOURNALISTS WHO WRITE AND THOSE WHO MAKE EDITORIAL DECISIONS, THOUGH SEVERAL DO BOTH. ALL ARE SPECIALISTS IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING NATO MATTERS OVER THE YEARS. THROUGH WIRE SERVICES AND DISPATCHES FROM THEIR CORRESPONDENTS BOTH IN US AND NATO COUNTRIES, THEY HAVE ACCESS TO LATEST HARD NEWS AS WELL AS EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARIES BY LEADING US AND FOREIGN PAPERS ON SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO ITALY. (RECENT NYTIMES ARTICLES ON NATO STRATEGY AND LUNS JAN 24 STATEMENT). IN ADDITION WE GAVE THEM BASIC BRIEFING MATERIAL ON NATO STRUCTURE AND POLICY.

4. ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABILITY: RANGES FROM THE MINIMUM TO UNDERSTAND A BRIEFING, TO TOTAL FLUENCY. TRANSLATION WILL NOT BE NECESSARY, THOUGH OCCASIONAL CLARIFICATIONS MAY BE NEEDED FROM ESCORT OR OTHER GROUP MEMBERS. PLEASE REQUEST BRIEFERS TO SPEAK CLEARLY AND DELIBERATELY. THE GROUP KNOWS THAT THERE WILL BE NO TRANSLATION.

5. THE GROUP: (THE INDIVIDUALS POLITICS AND OBJECTIVITY GENERALLY MIRROR THE PAPERS). A. SANDRO RIZZI, FOREIGN EDITOR CORRIERE DELLA SERA. CORRIERE IS ITALY'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AND INFLUENTIAL DAILY, UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH THE HIGHEST CIRCULATION (ESTIMATED AT 650,000), GENERALLY REFLECTS LIBERAL, PROGRESSIVE VIEWS. RECENT CHANGE IN CHIEF EDITOR (FROM OTTONE TO DI BELLA) HAS RESULTED IN MORE CLEARLY STATED "ATLANTICIST" LINE. NATO REPORTING OF LATE HAS BEEN FACTUAL AND BALANCED. RIZZI IS OBJECTIVE AND FRIENDLY.

B. ARNALDO BELLINI, FOREIGN EDITOR, IL GIORNALE. THE PAPER IS THE SPOKESMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHT. IT IS PRO-AMERICAN AND PRO-NATO, BUT OFTEN CHIDES US FOR BEING TOO SOFT OR IDEALISTIC. NATO REPORTING AND COMMENTARY INEVITABLY STRESSES SOVIET THREAT.

C. ALVARO RANZONI, FOREIGN EDITOR, PANORAMA, LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE. OFTEN CRITICAL OF THE US, USUALLY IN AN INACCURATE, IRRESPONSIBLE, SENSATIONALIST STYLE. USES TIME AND NEWSWEEK SERVICE MATERIAL INTACT. RANZONI HIMSELF CLAIMS TO BE OF THE "DEMOCRATIC LEFT".

D. DUILIO PALLOTTELLI, FOREIGN EDITOR, L'EUROPEO, WEEKLY NEWS AND FEATURE MAGAZINE WITH A MORE

PICTORIAL STYLE THAN PANORAMA. US AND NATO REPORTING VARIES FROM GOOD TO POOR, LEANING TOWARD A LEFTIST SLANT. PALLOTTELLI WAS MAGAZINE'S CORRESPONDENT IN NY FOR 11 YEARS, PERHAPS MOST PROFESSIONAL OF THIS GROUP, AND IS PERSONALLY PRO-AMERICAN.

E. UGO INTINI, EDITOR CRITICA SOCIALE, SOCIALIST PARTY POLITICAL AND THEORETICAL JOURNAL, AND CO-DIRECTOR OF GENOA DAILY IL LAVORO, ALSO SOCIALIST CONTROLLED. PSI LINE ON NATO IS ONE OF "COMPLETE SUPPORT" ACCORDING TO INTINI. HE IS PROBABLY MOST INTELLECTUALLY ORIENTED MEMBER OF GROUP AND CLOSELY LINKED TO PSI LEADER BETTINO CRAXI.

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F. GIAMPIERO GRECCHI, FOREIGN EDITOR, IL GIORNO, DAILY PAPER FINANCED BY GOVERNMENT-OWNED PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX, LEFT OF CENTER. NATO REPORTING IS OBJECTIVE AND BALANCED ALTHOUGH IL GIORNO OCCASIONALLY LEANS TOWARD SENTONALISM TO HELP BOOST ITS FALLING CIRCULATION.

G. RENZO CARNEVALI, FOREIGN AFFAIRS WRITER WITH FAMIGLIA CRISTIANA, WEEKLY FAMILY TYPE MAGAZINE EDITED AND CIRCULATED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. IT IS BY FAR THE HIGHEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY MAGAZINE IN ITALY, (ESTIMATED AT 1,800,000) READ WIDELY BY PRIMARILY MIDDLE CLASS ITALIANS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE COUNTRY. CARNEVALI IS SEASONED, OBJECTIVE JOURNALIST WHO RESIGNED FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS EDITOR POSITION AT CORRIERE A FEW YEARS AGO IN POLICY DISPUTE WITH FORMER CHIEF EDITOR.

6. PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE: MOST OF THE GROUP WILL HAVE CAMERAS AND WOULD APPRECIATE CLEARANCE TO TAKE PICTURES ON ALL STOPS, MOST IMPORTANTLY BORDER TOUR AND CARRIER VISIT. IF ADDRESSEES CAN PROVID PHOTO-GRAPHS THIS WOULD ALSO HELP, WITH COLOR GLOSSIES OR TRANSPARENCIES FOR TWO MAGAZINES WHICH SPECIALIZE IN COLOR SPREADS.

7. AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST: IN ADDITION OT SUBJECTS MENTIONED PAR 6 REFTTEL, DURING JAN 24 PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFING, FOLLOWING SUBJECT AREAS OF INTEREST WERE RAISED BY GROUP:

A. MOST IMPORTANTLY, EUROCOMMUNISM AND RECENT STATE DEPT STATEMENT (JAN 12); RAMIFICATIONS FOR NATO OF POSSIBLE ENTRANCE OF COMMUNISTS IN ITALIAN
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GOVERNMENT.

B. A REALISTIC PICTURE OF ITALY'S POLITICAL AND MILITARY
ROLE IN NATO TODAY.

C. A COMPARISON OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT FORCES, SINCE
THIS IS BASIS FOR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AND RELATES TO CSCE
BASKET I.

D. SALT: RELATIONSHIP OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO MBFR,
CRUISE MISSILE VS BACKFIRE, WARSAW PACT WEAPONS SYSTEMS
DEVELOPMENTS VS NATO.

E. "N BOMB"; CONSENSUS OF GROUP IS THAT IT WOULD
ESCALATE ARMS RACE RATHER THAN REDUCE AND INCREASE
POSSIBILITY OF NUCLEAR AS OPPOSED TO CONVENTIONAL WAR
IN EVENT OF W.P. ATTACK.

F. SAFEGUARDS AGAINST HUMAN ERROR WHICH MIGHT SET OF
A "CONVENTIONAL" WAR.

G. CONTINGENCY PLANS; WHAT ARE THEY, WHO MAKES THEM,
HOW ARE THEY ARRIVED AT?

H. PROBLEMS OF EASTERN FLANK; TURKEY, GREECE ETC.

I. GENERAL QUESTION OF ESPIONAGE AND DAMAGE DONE TO
NATO IN VIEW OF RECENT REVELATIONS.

J. SOVIET PRESENCE IN NORTH AFRICA AND EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN, IN VIEW OF ITALY'S ENERGY DEPENDENCE ON
THIS AREA.

K. FOR CAMP HOF: HUMAN INTEREST FEATURES OF LIFE OF SOLDIERS
ALONG BORDER.

8. COMMENT: BRIEFERS ARE PROBABLY ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH
THE VERBOSE STYLE OF QUESTIONING WHICH CHARACTERIZES
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ITALIAN JOURNALISTS. WHILE EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE
TO HAVE BRIEF CONCISE QUESTIONS WE WOULD APPRECIATE
PATIENCE ON THE PART OF OUR HOSTS IF THIS GROUND-RULE IS
NOT FOLLOWED. ALL GROUP MEMBERS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT
THE TOUR AND LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR APPOINTMENTS.
SINCE ITALY IS CURRENTLY CENTER OF MEDIA ATTENTION
DURING THIS CRITICAL PERIOD, AND ITALY'S RELATION

TO NATO CONTINUES TO BE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO US, WE
LOOK FORWARD TO AN IN-DEPTH, HIGH LEVEL SERIES OF
MEETINGS ON THIS COMPREHENSIVE NATO TOUR.TONINI

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